

Santa Monica Police Department

Year In Review

2003



A Message From the Chief

It is my pleasure to present to you "2003: The Year in Review," an annual report on the activities and accomplishments of the Santa Monica Police Department.

2003 was a challenging and eventful year for the Department. The California economic situation continued to impact upon law enforcement at the local level. The Police Department's budgetary plan for the 2003-04 fiscal year reflects the decline in outside funding from formula grants and revenue losses caused by the repeal of the controversial auto license tax. While the delivery of essential police services will never be compromised, budget constraints have slowed many of the capital enhancements in technology, innovative projects and equipment that make the Santa Monica Police Department a model for other agencies of its size.

In lean times or good, the credit for carrying out the mission to provide the highest quality of law enforcement services belongs to the dedicated men and women of the Santa Monica Police Department. In 2003, the true expression of this sentiment was realized in two tragic and highly publicized events: the Kristine Johnson disappearance and subsequent homicide investigation, and the Farmers' Market traffic accident response. It is not possible to overstate the professionalism, compassion and tenacity shown by all members of the Department under extremely distressing circumstances in both cases.

Statistical results bear witness to their dedication to the mission on a day-to-day basis, as well. Despite the weak economy, 2003 closed with a 4% decline in Part I crime as compared with 2002. Overall, Part I crime in Santa Monica was at its lowest level in 40 years. Traffic accidents in 2003 were down 5% as compared with 2002. But for the tragic anomaly of the Farmers' Market incident, 2003 would have ended without a single traffic fatality in Santa Monica.

2003 closed on an upbeat note for the Santa Monica Police Department. On August 27th, citizens had an opportunity to tour the completed Public Safety Facility and its state-of-the-art Communications Center.



On September 19th and 20th, Police and Fire personnel participated in a historical event for the City, the much-anticipated relocation to new headquarters. At year's end, we were still reveling in the bright, clean environment, increased workspace, and the renewed organizational efficiency the new facility promotes. This annual report is, in large part, a celebration of a dream finally realized.

It is my sincere hope that you will find "2003: The Year in Review" entertaining and informative.

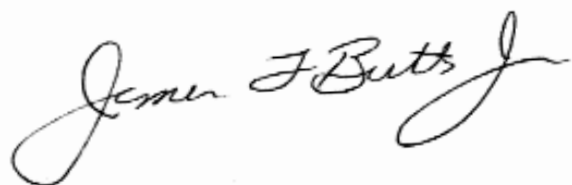


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- 52 Public Inquiry Phone Lines**
Police Department Frequently Called Numbers

Adopted Budget

POLICE DEPARTMENT 2003-04 ADOPTED BUDGET			
	Adopted Budget Fiscal Year 2003-04	Revised Budget Fiscal Year 2002-03	Percent Change
GENERAL FUND - POLICE DEPARTMENT			
Salaries and Wages	\$32,758,634	\$33,264,079	-1.52%
Supplies and Expenses	\$3,801,760	\$4,173,023	-8.90%
Capital Outlay	\$348,000	\$407,900	-14.68%
Subtotal Department	\$36,908,394	\$37,845,002	-2.47%
Fringe Benefits (estimate)*	\$10,642,100	\$7,027,200	51.44%
Total	\$47,550,494	\$44,872,202	5.97%
PIER FUND - HARBOR UNIT			
Salaries and Wages	\$547,500	\$573,000	-4.45%
Supplies and Expenses	\$125,200	\$129,625	-3.41%
Capital Outlay	\$2,000	\$2,000	0.00%
Subtotal Unit	\$674,700	\$704,625	-4.25%
TOTAL ALL FUNDS			
Salaries and Wages	\$33,306,134	\$33,837,079	-1.57%
Supplies and Expenses	\$3,926,960	\$4,302,648	-8.73%
Capital Outlay	\$350,000	\$409,900	-14.61%
Fringe Benefits (estimate)*	\$10,642,100	\$7,027,200	51.44%
Subtotal	\$48,225,194	\$45,576,827	5.81%
*Fringe Benefits for General Fund Divisions only			
FINANCING FROM NON - TAX SOURCES			
Program Revenues and Reimbursements	\$15,341,039	\$12,787,200	19.97%
General Fund	\$32,209,455	\$32,085,002	0.39%
Total Funding	\$47,550,494	\$44,872,202	5.97%

City Government

Santa Monica City Council and City Manager's Office

City Council

Mayor Richard Bloom

Mayor Pro Tempore Kevin McKeown

Michael Feinstein

Ken Genser

Robert Holbrook

Herb Katz

Pam O'Connor



City Manager

Susan McCarthy, City Manager

Gordon Anderson, Assistant City Manager

Mission, Vision and Values

Our Guiding Principles

Mission

The Mission of the Santa Monica Police Department is to provide the community with the highest quality of law enforcement services. We continually improve the public's perception of community safety through eradication of criminal activity and any conditions that have a detrimental impact on public safety.

We strive to enhance our tradition of excellent service to all. We continue to seek support and cooperation from the community we serve and from those of us who serve the community. Our organizational culture is responsive to new ideas and is one in which all employees are given the opportunity to develop to their highest potential and see themselves as agents of change. We base all our relationships on the premise that the public and police are one.

Vision

The Santa Monica Police Department will exist to preserve liberty, enhance the safety of the community and defend human dignity. We will be an organization in which each employee embraces integrity as the cornerstone upon which the public trust is built. We will foster an environment of honesty, trust and mutual respect in which the Department and the community work together as catalysts for positive change.

We strive to be recognized for our strong service orientation, progressive development of all our human resources and our application of emerging technologies. We will embody the values of the Department and reflect these values in the performance of our duties.

We will continue to build upon this vision through open communication and receptiveness to new ideas.

Our Values

HONESTY: Fairness and straightforwardness of conduct. Adherence to the facts and dedication to truthfulness.

INTEGRITY: Soundness, firm adherence to a code of moral values, incorruptibility and completeness. We demonstrate personal integrity and the courage of our convictions. We will not sacrifice principle for expediency, be hypocritical, or act in an unscrupulous manner.

TRUST: Is a result of honest behavior between each other and acceptance of other's judgments and abilities.

CARING: To be sensitive to the needs of others and demonstrate compassion for all people.

RESPECT: To consider all people worthy of high regard. We demonstrate respect for human dignity, and appreciation of the privacy and rights of all. We manifest commitment to justice, equal treatment of individuals, tolerance for and acceptance of diversity.

LOYALTY: Proactively supporting the organization, its membership and its goals, and being held accountable for our conduct as well as for the conduct of our peers and/or subordinates.

SERVICE ORIENTATION: To actively contribute to the welfare of the community, and to genuinely care about improving the quality of life of those we serve.

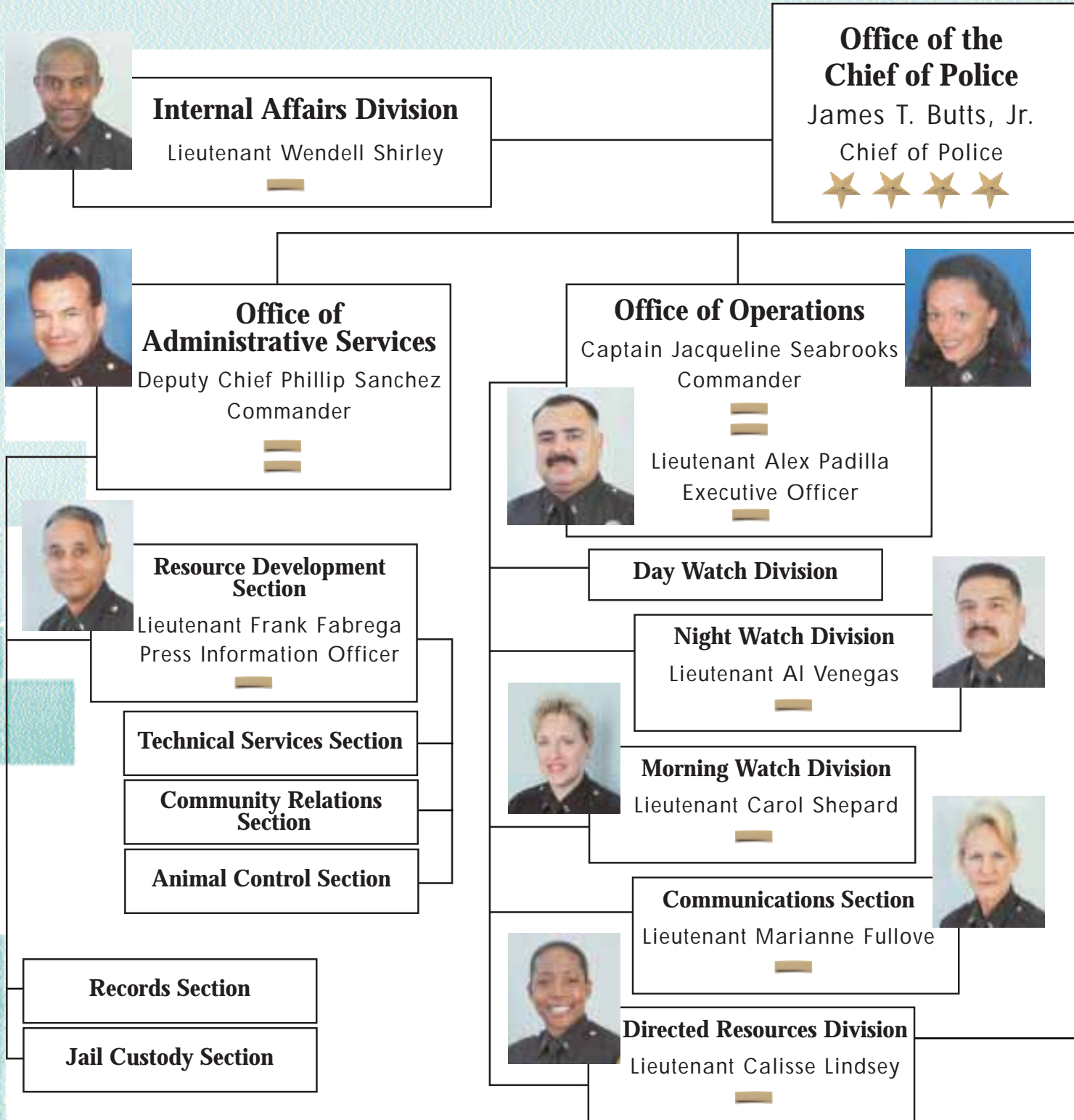
Our Mission



...to provide the community with the highest quality of law enforcement services.



Department Organization





Audits & Analysis Division

Lieutenant Mike Beautz



Office of Special Enforcement

Captain Gary Gallinot
Commander

Office of Criminal Investigations

Captain Mark Smiley
Commander



Special Operations Division

Lieutenant William Brucker



Lieutenant Ray Cooper
Executive Officer



Traffic Enforcement Division

Lieutenant George Centeno



Traffic Services Division

Lieutenant Clinton Muir

Robbery Homicide Section

Sex Crimes/ Family Services Section

Property Crimes Section

Forensic Section

Youth Services Division

Lieutenant P.J. Guido



SPD

Harbor Unit

HLP Team

Third Street Bikes

Park Unit

CSO I

**YSD Investigations/
School Resources Officers**

Pico Neighborhood

2003

The Year in Review

The impending war in Iraq dominated the news in early 2003. As the federal government moved ever closer to a pre-emptive military conflict, public opinion became polarized. Law enforcement at the local level was forced into strategic planning for protests and civil unrest.

From January through April, Santa Monica Police Department resources were expended on a number of organized and spontaneous protests over the government policy in Iraq. The largest protests in Santa Monica were organized and carried out by high school and college students. Other anti-war organizations staged smaller protests in the 2800 block of the beach, the Third Street Promenade, Spirit Awards and in Palisades Park. The protests coincided with several unrelated labor demonstrations and union-management worksite confrontations.

Noteworthy Crime

Despite the poor economy, the Part I crime rate continued on its long-term downward trend. Total Part I crime in 2003 was 4% lower than the same figure for 2002, a year in which Part I crime was already at its lowest level in 40 years. The Part II crime rate was influenced by focused deployment in patrol, special units and traffic enforcement that resulted in more adult arrests (up 9% from 2002).

On February 17th, a Day Watch officer was sent to the home of Kristine Johnson to take a missing person report from her friends. The officer recognized that the case involved suspicious circumstances and notified investigators, who immediately formed a task force and began an exhaustive investigative effort. Detectives secured bank and cell phone records in an attempt to track and locate the victim. On February 18th, police solicited the public's help via media sources and a tip line was established. On February 24th, Kristine Johnson's car was found in the parking structure of the St. Regis Hotel in Century City and on February 26th, a person of interest was identified. Tragically, on March 3rd, hikers in the Hollywood Hills found the body of Kristine Johnson.

Based on extensive investigation and fortuitous witness information, a suspect was identified and named. The District Attorney found sufficient evidence to file murder charges with special circumstances against Victor Paleologus for the death of Kristine Johnson. The preliminary hearing for Paleologus was held on June 11th. He was ordered bound over for trial on capital murder charges. Paleologus was granted two continuances on his arraignment and has retained a private attorney to defend him.

Other noteworthy 2003 cases include two fraud schemes. One \$700,000 fraud case involving exotic and vintage automobiles resulted in the filing of 18 felony counts of grand theft. An arrest warrant was issued for the suspect.

Case investigator Virginia Obenchain is lowered by crane into the rugged Hollywood Hills crime scene where hikers found the body of Kristine Johnson.



In another case, felony charges were filed with the District Attorney's Major Fraud Unit against a suspect for filing falsified documents. The suspect's modus operandi was to file quitclaim deeds on properties in disrepair and then attempt to obtain loans on the property. Since January 1, 2003, the suspect filed quitclaim deeds on ten pieces of property in Los Angeles County, valued in excess of \$10,000,000, and had applied for a \$425,000 loan on one of the properties.

In a bizarre incident, detectives responded to the 2100 block of 21st Street regarding a human head found by a construction crew. The head had been surgically removed and appeared to have been undisturbed for several years. The head may have been used as a medical specimen at one time. The coroner took custody and arranged to contact an anthropologist for an opinion.

Gang violence increased in the Pico Neighborhood during the second quarter of 2003. In a three-week period, five separate daytime shootings occurred in the area. Santa Monica Police Department command staff devised a three-pronged approach to quell the violence, consisting of an aggressive investigation, high-visibility patrol, and an undercover narcotic operation.

The Narcotics Unit received a number of complaints alleging narcotics activity at a location in the southwest part of the City. After service of two warrants and the arrest of nine people for various drug charges, it was apparent that enforcement action alone would not abate the activity. Investigators worked with the City Attorney's Office to draft an abatement letter to the property owner. The letter detailed the problems at the location and outlined further action anticipated to abate the public nuisance. The collaborative efforts of the Narcotics Unit and the City Attorney's Office resulted in the sale of the property.

In October, acting on a tip by the United States Custom Task Force, the Narcotics Section began a surveillance and recovered 135 pounds of marijuana, with a street value over \$65,000, at a residence in Upland. The suspect, a Zambian citizen, had smuggled the drugs in a shipment of African carved wood chessboards. He was booked for transportation and possession of marijuana for sale and held on \$100,000 bail.

DNA testing continues to prove its value in criminal investigations. In March 2003, a suspect fled the scene of a street robbery, but left his baseball cap behind. He was arrested, but could not be identified by the victims. The suspect had a lengthy robbery history and was on parole for robbery. The District Attorney's Office declined to file the case, but the suspect was held on a violation of parole. Investigators pursued the case and submitted the baseball cap to the Orange County Crime Lab for DNA analysis. A hair in the cap was linked to the suspect. Based on the results, detectives decided to resubmit the case.

Traffic Safety and Mobility

Motor Officers, Traffic Service Officers and Crossing Guards were deployed to assist with traffic mitigation around two sinkholes that developed in the 1200 block of Ocean Park Boulevard just before the 2003 New Year holiday. During the resulting 3-month street closure, pedestrians and motorists were detoured into the normally quiet adjacent residential streets, necessitating an enhanced level of traffic control and enforcement. Remarkably, just before the 2004 New Year holiday, similar sinkholes opened at Colorado Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard.



Two sinkholes on Ocean Park Boulevard forced traffic to be diverted into residential streets during the 3-month repair

On July 16, 2003, a major traffic collision occurred at the Wednesday Farmers' Market, held on Arizona Avenue between 4th Street and Ocean Avenue. In what is unquestionably the most devastating single traffic incident in the City's history, an elderly driver drove his vehicle through the open-air market killing ten pedestrians and injuring as many as 70 people.

The Police Communications Center was immediately flooded with 9-1-1 calls reporting the incident. All available police and fire personnel responded and set up a joint incident command and to assist with first aid, traffic control, evidence preservation and collection.



Medical evacuation helicopter prepares to airlift a Farmers' Market collision victim to hospital.



A scene of devastation: July 16th Farmers' Market traffic collision.

The Beverly Hills Police Department, Culver City Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and Los Angeles City Fire Department provided mutual assistance. More than 300 emergency workers responded, including 15 ambulances and four medical evacuation helicopters. The incident is the largest investigation connecting so many agencies, local to federal, in Santa Monica Police Department history. With the assistance of these allied agencies, the scene was secured, processed and released in an expeditious manner.

On the day of the accident, more than 290 witnesses were interviewed under the coordination of the Office of Criminal Investigations, which also oversaw the dissemination of information associated with the investigation.

The California Highway Patrol took over as the lead agency in the traffic accident investigation, which was concluded in December. The Criminal Investigations Division reviewed the findings and recommended that the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office charge the driver with manslaughter.

There were 10 fatalities involving pedestrians during 2003, all of them the result of the Farmers' Market incident. Despite that tragic event, total accidents involving injury in 2003 decreased 21%, and accidents involving pedestrians decreased 25%, as compared with 2002.

During 2003, the Traffic Enforcement and Traffic Services Divisions carried out a number of programs to promote traffic safety and mobility. Enforcement activities included speed-detection radar trailers, handicap placard sting operations, driver license/DUI checkpoints, pedestrian decoy operations at problem intersections, saturation patrols, seatbelt and child safety seat inspections.

A press conference was called on December 17th to announce the investigative findings and recommendations in the Farmers Market case. Left to right: Head Deputy District Attorney John Lynch, Chief James T. Butts, Jr., Deputy Chief Phillip Sanchez, Captain Jacqueline Seabrooks, Lieutenant Ray Cooper.



A "Problem Solving Safety Team" (PSST) was formed to concentrate traffic enforcement within specific problem areas. The highly effective 30-day impound program, "Removing Irresponsible Drivers" (RID) continued in 2003, with the goal of removing vehicles driven by unlicensed drivers or drivers with suspended/revoked licenses.

Traffic education initiatives during the year included the nationwide Bicycle Safety Month program and a program for homeless persons in which bicycle helmets were distributed. The Traffic Enforcement Division attended a senior driving education program entitled, "Talking to Your Parents About Driving." The program was held in conjunction with the Senior Living program that targeted adults that have elderly parents still driving.

The California Office of Traffic Safety selected Santa Monica to organize and staff a booth at the Los Angeles County Fair "Traffic Safety Day" on September 16th. The Police Officers' Association of Los Angeles County (POALAC) sponsored the event.

2003 traffic safety measures were concluded with the Department's participation in a nationwide DUI enforcement program entitled, "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose." A December 29th checkpoint in the 3100 block of Santa Monica Boulevard resulted in issuance of 29 citations, eight vehicle impounds for a variety of offenses, two DUIs, and an arrest for public intoxication.

Community Livability and Quality of Life

During 2003, the Police Department launched a pilot study on a variation of the community-oriented policing concept called Neighborhood Centered Policing (NCP). NCP adds the dimension of ongoing community interaction and dialogue to augment, rather than replace, traditional patrol services. An objective of Neighborhood Centered Policing is to address issues that impact real and perceived community livability in the City's self-defined neighborhoods.

The NCP pilot program tackled issues affecting Main Street, the Bayside District and the Pier environs. NCP strategies were applied to community livability problems such as aggressive solicitation and panhandling, sleeping in doorways, and street performers in the Downtown and Third Street Promenade areas. In some cases, new ordinances were codified to reach a permanent solution.

To create a safer environment for visitors to Santa Monica, a Hotel Security Group was formed; an excellent example of the kind of collaboration between the police and community that is possible with an NCP approach.

NCP will be fully implemented during 2004.

Fiscal and Budgetary Issues

Outside factors influenced the cost to deliver effective law enforcement services in Santa Monica during 2003.

Jurisdictional changes by the Los Angeles County Courts significantly increased the cost to adjudicate Santa Monica's criminal cases. On January 1, 2003, Santa Monica cases were transferred from the nearby Santa Monica Court to the new high-security courthouse near LAX. Investigators, accustomed to a quick walk to attend preliminary hearings and trials, now spend large portions of their workday in transit to court. Officers assigned to shifts and weekends typically have a longer paid commute from home to testify in court.

The most complex and costly aspect of the new court location is associated with the transport of persons held in custody, which consumes an average of 43 hours of officer time per week. An overtime detail was initiated to stop the drain on regular law enforcement services to the citizens of Santa Monica.

The fiscal condition of the State of California continued to impact local jurisdictions during 2003. In March, the State Commission on Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) notified local agencies that vital training reimbursements had been suspended pending a resolution of the State budget. Since most law enforcement training is mandatory, the Police Department was faced with absorbing all costs. The Department dealt with the funding loss by approving only essential training and using in-house trainers to the extent allowed by the mandates. Although limited reimbursements have resumed, the Training Unit continues to review training requests carefully, and seek costs saving alternatives where possible.

In early 2003, the Department of Justice implemented a new notification process through its Sexual Tracking Unit. On the day an offender is required to register, DOJ notifies the agency in whose jurisdiction the offender was last known to reside. The agency is required to investigate, although the registrant may have had no contact for many years. Investigating and locating a registrant is a costly, time-consuming process that must be absorbed into the regular case workload. Santa Monica receives and investigates about 40 notifications each quarter.

2003 marked the final year of grant funding by the federal Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) program. Also in question is the future of the legislated High-Technology Equipment (CLEEP) and COPS-SLESF programs from the cash-strapped State of California. The competitive grant market became notably more politicized as equitable block grant programs ended.

The outcome of long-awaited federal homeland security fund allocations was especially disappointing. Homeland security-related costs incurred before the start of military action in Iraq were ineligible for reimbursement under the Federal Critical Infrastructure Reimbursement Program. Local jurisdictions were in competition with private industry that used extensive lobbying to garner much of the federal funding to protect their assets. Santa Monica did receive two allocations of federal homeland security funds with use guidelines strictly set by Washington.

Efforts to find outside funding for traffic safety projects were more successful. The California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) awarded grants for five separate traffic safety, education and enforcement projects.

With City Council approval, 2003 Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JAIBG) funds were released to the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office. The funds help pay for a Deputy District Attorney to serve as a hearing officer in Inglewood Juvenile Court, which has jurisdiction over all Santa Monica juvenile matters. JAIBG is federally funded and administered by the State Office of Criminal Justice Planning.

The year was fraught with questions surrounding the impact of the potential leadership changes in Sacramento on the City and Police Department fiscal outlook. Of immediate concern was the Executive Order to repeal the so called 'car tax.' While unpopular among all taxpaying citizens, the legislation that created the tax specifies that revenues help pay the cost of local law enforcement services. Traffic enforcement and patrol officers also awaited the final outcome of the Executive Order rescinding the new law that would allow undocumented foreigners to have driver licenses.

During 2003, the Court Services Coordinator monitored 11,178 court appearances for sworn and non-sworn personnel. They cancelled 2,727 involving off-duty personnel for a savings of \$248,281 in court overtime, based on an average 3-hour minimum.

Department Organization

Officer attrition due to Baby Boomer retirements was a continuing concern for the Police Department. During 2003, ten veteran officers and detectives retired, matching the number of retirements in 2002. The rate of new hires must outpace the attrition rate to avoid overtime costs to backfill the vacant positions. Through an aggressive program of ongoing recruitment, the Resource Development Section placed fifteen new officers on payroll during 2003.

Until the mid-1900s, the Police Department command staff included an Assistant Chief to help the Chief of Police with top administrative functions. In 2003, the Police Department was authorized to recreate the Deputy Chief position by reclassifying one of its four budgeted Police Captain positions. The organizational change recognizes the Department's growth, expanding responsibilities and the complexities of being headquartered in a new large facility. In addition, advanced law enforcement technology and planning require continuous command overview and support to ensure success.

After a competitive process, Captain Phillip Sanchez was appointed to the Deputy Chief position. Deputy Chief Sanchez immediately assumed the responsibilities of coordinator for the Neighborhood Centered Policing (NCP) program, the departmental budget and certain interdepartmental liaison functions. He also serves as Office Commander for the Office of Administrative Services in lieu of the eliminated Police Captain position.



Deputy Chief Phillip Sanchez (right) and Lieutenant Al Venegas arrive for a meeting at the California Heritage Museum.

The Department continued programs to reach youth and have a positive impact on their lives. School Resource Officers completed a semester-long Criminal Justice Class at Olympic High School, where students learned about law, constitutional rights, and their responsibilities under the law. Area teenagers attended an eight-week Junior Police Academy (JPA). The teens were exposed to police work through interaction with officers assigned to different details, participation in classes taught by SMPD personnel and the ride-along program. The JPA is a very popular and rewarding program for PAL youth.

Forty community members graduated from two Santa Monica Police Department Citizen Academy classes during 2003. The program consists of ten evening classes over ten weeks. The graduates increased their knowledge of police procedure, criminal law, safety services offered by the City, and how to be proactive in the overall safety of their community.

The "Red Bull Flügtag" promotional event was held in September, drawing over 50,000 people to the Pier and north beach area. Preparations for the event began three months prior and involved Harbor Service officers, police officers and Los Angeles County lifeguards.

The summer months were dominated by preparations for the impending move of Department personnel and records into the new Public Safety Facility.

The City had hoped to combine the National Night Out Against Crime celebration, held annually in August, with the grand opening of the new Public Safety Facility. When it became clear the building would not be safe for occupancy, a decision was made to delay the celebration until August 27th. Though still unoccupied, the Public Safety Facility was sufficiently ready for public tours on the evening of the celebration, appropriately renamed "Grand Night Out."

After a series of construction delays, the long-awaited move finally took place over the weekend of September 19th-21st.

The year ended much as it began, with picketing and demonstrations. Throughout the last quarter of the year, the lengthy supermarket union workers' strike affected many of the stores in Santa Monica. Patrol supervisors visited the sites to advise management and picketers about the legalities while picketing. Nonetheless, patrol officers responded to numerous calls of disturbances and confrontations at these markets.



The 2003 Red Bull Flügtag: An event in which perfectly sane people 'take flight' in perfectly wacky homemade aircraft.

The federal Office of Homeland Security again elevated the security status during the holiday season. As a result, some work units curtailed non-essential duties to maintain maximum visibility in places where the public tends to congregate and other potential targets within the City. The physical security of some high profile areas was reinforced to minimize risk.



Citizens attending the Grand Night Out celebration on August 27th had a chance to tour the new Public Safety Facility.

From Vision to Reality

Santa Monica's New Public Safety Facility

In the pre-dawn hours of September 19, 2003, after years of planning and more than a few setbacks, the Santa Monica Police Department quietly unplugged its phones and computers and vacated the structure that had been "HQ" for 46 years. Over the same weekend, offsite police operations and Fire Department administration and support completed the move. In less than 48 hours, the City's emergency services providers were open to serve the public in a new, state-of-the-art Public Safety Facility.

The general move commenced at 5 a.m. on Friday morning with the disconnection of all police computers, phones and office equipment. The equipment and all departmental records were swiftly transferred to their precise locations in the Public Safety Facility. Technology specialists quickly reestablished computer and telephone connectivity, in most cases within three or four hours.

It was the culmination of months of planning to ensure the move caused no disruption of public safety services. A temporary Watch Commander and Front Desk operation was set up in the lobby of City Hall for the entire weekend. When essential services were ready to open for public business a full day ahead of schedule, a decision was made to disband the temporary operations at City Hall late Saturday afternoon. With the opening of the Front Desk in the lobby, the Santa Monica Public Safety Facility was officially open for business at 6 p.m. on Saturday, September 20, 2003.



From vision...



...to reality

To be sure, the move to the new Public Safety Facility prompted some immediate staffing and procedural adjustments, nearly all of them having a very positive impact.

Unified to Benefit Public Safety

Moving into the PSF has profoundly benefited police and public safety planning and productivity.

The move reunited members of the Office of Special Enforcement (OSE) with the rest of the Police Department after an eight-year separation. Operating from various off-site facilities, OSE personnel had little opportunity for the informal daily interaction with other staff that plays such a vital role in any organization. Elimination of the offsite location reduces the cost of space rental and the expense of acquiring and maintaining redundant equipment.

At the other extreme, lack of space had forced many unrelated work groups into shared offices where their respective work environment needs were often at odds. The space planning and design of the Public Safety Facility allows work to be done efficiently in logically arranged office zones.

The 1984 Northridge earthquake demonstrated the value of having all public safety planning and communications in one place during a regional emergency. For the first time in Santa Monica's history, key Police and Fire Department decision makers are housed under one roof. At the Grand Night Out dedication, Council

Member Ken Genser said the synergy that will come from the two departments sharing a roof during emergencies will lead to: "...much better coordination than we've ever had before."



Police Sgt. K. G. Semko and Firefighter Paul Bellante at the dedication of the Public Safety Facility. Sharing headquarters will promote the spirit of teamwork between the departments.

Locating a coordinated police/fire central dispatch center and the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) within one building has increased the effectiveness of the City's emergency management system. The new EOC has its own dedicated space. When it is activated for training or a real emergency, the Police Department no longer loses its briefing room. Housed in a modern, code compliant structure, the EOC has the computerized support systems and uninterrupted emergency power sources necessary for 21st Century automated emergency management planning and response.

The Public Safety Facility represents a significant investment by and for the

citizens of Santa Monica to create a combined emergency services system that is technically advanced, efficient and reliable. To accomplish these three objectives, every aspect of the communications infrastructure is new. As a designated essential facility, every modern seismic safety standard that was feasible within the City's spending limitations was incorporated into its design, engineering and construction.

The problems with the former police headquarters went far beyond a lack of space. The Public Safety Facility has resolved serious inefficiencies that had interdependent work activities out of proximity and created problems with disruptive and unsafe building circulation. Many old workarounds have been eliminated.

For the first time in the Department's history, police vehicles are maintained in a secured area with immediate access from officers' primary work locations within the structure. The garage has facilities for minor repairs and maintenance on the vehicles.

The decision to open the Olympic Drive extension gives direct emergency access from the building to 4th Street and the I-10 Freeway on-ramp improving response times for emergency calls. Formerly, patrol units responding to emergencies had to circumnavigate the Civic Center to reach points east of the police station, consuming valuable seconds when every second counts.



The newly opened Olympic Drive gives patrol cars direct access to Fourth Street.

Officers who formerly waited for access to a computer for report writing now have triple the report-writing resources, with evidence booking and processing conveniently located adjacent to the report writing area.

Crime scene processing and investigation also benefits from additional space. In their former cramped quarters, Forensic Section staff found many pieces of photo and evidence collection equipment virtually inaccessible. The new Forensic Section has a tenfold increase in available space for labs and equipment. The Forensic Section was also allocated space in the garage area to house and process vehicles involved in crimes in a secured environment out of the elements.

In its former location, the Police Property Room was filled so beyond its capacity that there was literally no space to organize boxes and files in preparation to move. By contrast, the new Property Room has ample space

to organize and store evidence for years to come.

The Public Safety Facility has a bona fide supply room and elevators to move deliveries into place. Boxes are no longer stacked dangerously in work areas and hallways.

Employee morale is boosted by ample dedicated break, lunch and restrooms. Conference rooms no longer double as the employee lunchroom. Outdoor rest areas allow public safety employees to get fresh air on breaks while staying on the premises, should an emergency arise.

Standardized furnishings are visually unifying. Gone is the cacophony of desks, file cabinets and chairs. The new furnishings are modular and interchangeable, lending flexibility, efficiency and economy as needs change over time.

The increase in space to circulate within the office environment encourages good housekeeping by assigned personnel and better facilities maintenance by custodial staff.

Secure but Accessible

New building security policies speak to the changing world situation and the challenge of protecting a large structure with many corridors and rooms. With its multiple access points and lack of public restroom facilities, the retired police headquarters building was difficult to secure. Police Department employees, accustomed to casual drop-in access throughout the police station, are now required to wear visible identification in the Public Safety Facility at all times. A proximity card system means employees must have a reason to be admitted into areas to which they are not assigned. Limiting access to those with official business has eased the work disruption often caused by visitors and cross traffic.

Most of the public's business with the Police Department can be dispensed at one of the efficient public service counters located in the main lobby. In addition to the traditional Front Desk and Records counter, the Traffic Services Division now serves the



Most services to the public can be conveniently accessed directly from the spacious lobby.

public on a full-time basis at its new counter in the lobby. The Community Relations Section can carry out its vital role as liaison with the public more directly from its offices near the main lobby. Vendors and others with business that requires them to access the office areas are required to stop by the Front Office and obtain a visitor pass.

reduces distracting noise from problematic inmates. The relocation of the Jail in early 2004 will be a particular relief to City Hall offices impacted by the augmented noise bouncing off the central courtyard walls. Expanded intake facilities have the necessary automated support systems to manage multiple bookings from drug sweeps and other special task force

Similarly, in the Investigations area, the victim/witness program now possesses sufficient rooms for private victim/witness interviews, counseling and assistance.

Environment Friendly - User Friendly

Completion of the new public safety facility marks the first phase of a voter-approved Civic Center Master Plan. Structurally, the Public Safety Facility reflects the City of Santa Monica's "Sustainable City" vision for environmentally responsible growth. Exceeding Federal Title 24 code standards for energy efficient design by 36%, the 117,000 square foot building is environmentally "green." The structure also meets all ADA accessibility requirements.



Lieutenant Clinton Muir approves of the efficient new public counter area his Traffic Services Division will occupy.

The new facility provides ample venues for community outreach meetings and public interaction with the Police Department not possible in the former location.

The Public Safety Facility is equipped with automated security systems such as closed circuit television, voice-activated jail duress alarms, automated locking systems, and normal fire and life safety warning systems.

The separation of the Jail by floor and zone from other building operations

arrests. A secure "sally port" helps with prisoner control and promotes the safety of transporting officers, prisoners and the public. The Jail has sufficient interview rooms to accommodate attorney and family visits without undue delays. The Jail is arranged to permit the direct supervision of all inmates from one central security control point so jailer time is not spent patrolling blind corridors to observe persons in custody. The circulation path in the Jail is open and visible.



The building design features a large inner atrium that brings natural light to the interior offices.

Contributing to the building's low energy use is an under-floor air distribution system, interior atrium design to maximize natural lighting and ventilation, recycling of construction

waste, specialty exterior glazing to minimize heat gain, use of industry partnership supplies, high efficiency/low density lighting, use of air-cooled chillers and high efficiency pulse boilers.

The building uses recycled content materials to promote indoor environmental quality, including access flooring, carpet tile, acoustic ceiling tile, lighting fixtures and ceramic tile. Carpets and walls are made from materials that emit none of the throat and eye-burning toxins of some new fabricated materials. To promote sustainability, no materials were used that come from endangered sources. Reclaimed water is used for irrigation and toilet flushing. Unpainted con-

crete pillars and curved crossbeams support the structure in an open ceiling design.

The building has broad southerly exposure on the top two levels. The site orientation provides views and exposure to natural sunlight, known to boost worker morale and productivity, to the maximum number of employees. Glass partitions increase the amount of natural light in the interior spaces. At the heart of the structure is a central atrium and skylight feature. The result is a flood of natural daylight and sense of openness in the interior walkways, staircases and offices, reminiscent of a modern art gallery.

The building takes advantage of natural cross-ventilation and Santa Monica's ideal climate. On the exterior, drought resistant plant materials replace water-thirsty lawn and balance with the need to reduce hardscape and urban runoff. The entry terrace, with its impressive water feature and lily pond, creates a welcome microclimate that cools the building's southern exposure and reduces glare.

Park-like, refreshing surroundings on the south belie the structure's proximity to the freeway on the north. Double paned and shatter resistant glass on the second floor reduces traffic noise and pollution created by the I-10 freeway that runs adjacent to the north side. A grant-funded retrofit of



Visitors to the Public Safety Facility are first greeted by the impressive water feature on the right.

the remaining north-facing windows with a higher-grade glass will provide better soundproofing for other floors.

The unique mix of design and safety elements will attract many visitors from the private and public sector, including other emergency services agencies researching their own facilities and systems upgrades.

The now-retired 1950s-era police station, designed for 140 employees but housing three times that many, has been approved for demolition. The master design plan specifies that in its place between City Hall and the new structure will be a .8-acre open space with public gardens and walkways.

Studies determined that rehabilitating the 44,000 square foot addition to City Hall would be a costly proposition for a space that is not large enough to meet the City's needs. Demolition of the structure will allow for restoration of the historic City Hall structure and its adjacent eastern courtyard. For some whose entire career in law enforcement unfolded in the old structure, the change will be bittersweet.

Santa Monica Public Safety Facility Facts and Figures

Ground Breaking:

August 12, 1999

Occupancy Date:

September 19, 2003

Size:

118,000 square feet on six levels

Architect:

Dworsky & Associates

Concrete:

30,000 cubic yards

Reinforcing Steel:

4 million pounds

Structural Steel:

60,000 pounds

Curtain Wall Glazing:

6,000 square feet

Window Glazing:

3,000 square feet

Number of Doors:

700

Interior Drywall:

235,000 square feet

(all quantities are based on original planning estimates,
and are approximate)

A Grand Night Out

Celebrating the New Public Safety Facility

Construction delays rendered the Public Safety Facility unsafe for entry on August 5th, the date set for the nationwide celebration of "National Night Out Against Crime." Undaunted, the City opted to forego the national event in favor of a local celebration on August 27th. Appropriately renamed "Grand Night Out" to reflect the grand opening of the Public Safety Facility, the event was attended by several hundred citizens, City officials and employees. Attendees witnessed the dedication ceremonies and toured the facility, including the new state-of-the-art Communication Center. Youngsters and adults alike were delighted to see where the 9-1-1 calls are received and to learn how calls for service are dispatched to field officers.

Among the dignitaries and officials on hand for the ceremonies were Mayor Richard Bloom and members of the City Council, Assistant City Manager Gordon Anderson, Police Chief James T. Butts, Jr. and Fire Chief Ettore Berardinelli.

State Senator Sheila Kuehl and State Assembly Member Fran Pavley sent representatives to present to Mayor Bloom certificates in recognition of Santa Monica's dedication to public safety and responsible environmental policies, as reflected in the design features and materials used in the facility.

Multi-colored streamers and confetti accompanied the ribbon cutting ceremony. Contributions by the community made the festivities even more colorful. Brightly outfitted clowns from the Al Malaikah Shriners and Los



Angeles Shriners Hospital were on hand to entertain the children. The Art Institute of Los Angeles provided a stunning cake decorated with lifelike representations of the patches emblazoned on Santa Monica police and fire uniforms. The SAMOHI marching band added musical entertainment, while the Police Department provided the color guard. J & M Entertainment served as master of ceremony and kept the event activities moving according to schedule.

Volunteers helped Community Relations staff several tables set up to answer questions and distribute crime and fire prevention brochures. Members of the Police Department SET, K-9 and Equestrian teams and the Fire Department E.M.T. team gave visitors a close-up look at the equipment they use in their operations.

Refreshments were served, including a traditional hot dog barbecue, served up "safely" by the Fire Department from their outdoor grill.

A grand time was had by all.



10-19: Return to Headquarters

Places SMPD Has Called Home

*Researched and written by
Officer Evan Mason (SMPD Retired)
Santa Monica Police Department Historian*

10-19 was the radio code which called an officer to return to the station or headquarters.¹ Though there have been police substations in various locations at different times, headquarters has always been the seat of police administration and activity.

1887. The first mention of police facilities within the Township of Santa Monica came in the form of a series of resolutions and ordinances by the Board of Trustees. However, confusion in the records arises from the method of record keeping and reporting at that time. On March 7, by Ordinance 16, Lot 1 of Block 796 was rented from John Steele for \$50 per year to build a jail. In April, A. G. Montgomery offered plans and a bid for jail construction for the sum of \$466.25. Finally, by Resolution 9, the jail was established on May 6, 1887. Almost three weeks later, May 25, 1887, J. C. Steele, president of the Board of Trustees, entered into a lease with Jacob Hodge for a 50 foot

frontage along Utah Avenue for a jail site. Finally, a committee to secure a location for the jail was established and the outcome was the site on Utah Avenue (Broadway).

The typical jail in the late 1800's was a heavy timbered wooden structure with open barred windows. No reference of the location of the Marshall's office was found. However, it is unlikely that it was adjacent to the jail, as this was not the practice of the time.

1888. In May of 1888 the Board of Trustees rented for \$35 per month William Rapp's brick building on Second Street as a meeting hall for all city officers. On Monday, May 12, 1888, the Trustees held their first meeting in the Rapp building. The room was partitioned off by a railing, with the officers being supplied desks and other "conveniences." The Marshall's desk was in the front corner of the room.

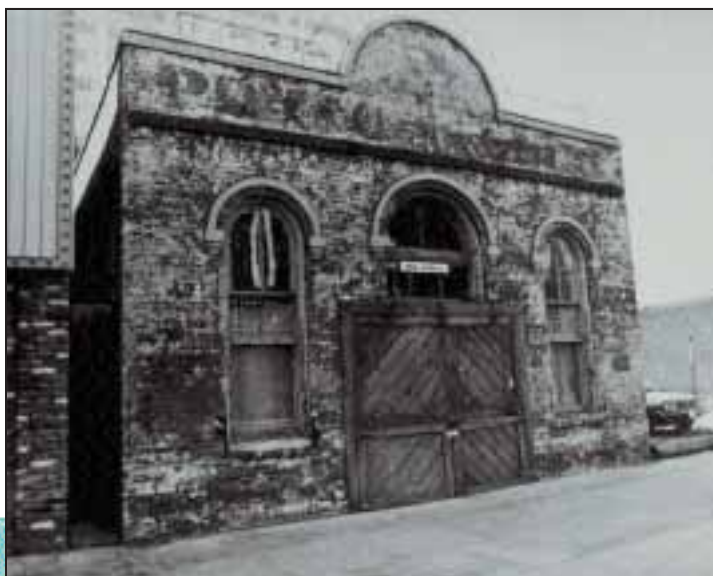
1889. On January 16, 1889 the city offices and council chambers were

moved to the Bank Block Building² at the southeast corner of Third Street and Oregon Avenue (Santa Monica Boulevard). The Marshal's office was on the second floor in room 12. The Trustee's were next door in room 14. The offices of the city would remain in this location until 1903.

By April 17 the jail building was moved to the rear of the Bank Block Building, facing the alley.³

1891. The Outlook of May 20, 1891 listed the directory of the Bank Block Building which was located on the corner of Third Street and Oregon Avenue (now Santa Monica Boulevard). Room 11 on the second floor housed the Town Marshall, Max K. Barretto, while room 13 was listed as the Council Chambers.

1898. A young man was found in an alley with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head; the only available place to take him while waiting for the doctor was the floor of the fire house. The young man died of his wounds causing the townspeople to debate



1888 Rapp Saloon - First brick structure completed in November 1875 by its owner William Rapp, this building is located at 1438 2nd Street in Santa Monica. It was originally built as a saloon; it was designated as the regular meeting place of the Board of Trustees of the town of Santa Monica according to the Evening Outlook 05/09/1888 (ordinance #58), but may have been used for such meetings as early as May 1887 (SMEO 05/12/1887, ordinance #22). Meetings were held in larger quarters beginning February 1889. Over the years the building has had many uses including a Salvation Army meeting hall, temporary headquarters of the city's first gas and light company, a piano repair shop, and possibly as part of a movie studio.

Photo and caption credit:

<http://www.smpl.org/archive/0246/IMG0011.JPG>

Santa Monica Public Library Image Archives

Source: donated to the Library, Fred E. Basten Collection



1889-1903 Bank Block Building – There is little in the literature about this building, except that its name suggests it was intended to be a commercial building. It was located at the southeast corner of Third Street and Oregon (now Santa Monica) Boulevard. During the early years, law enforcement functions were carried out by a Marshal whose offices were in the City Hall premises.

the appropriateness of the floor of the fire house as a place for treating the sick or injured. The need for a hospital room was seen as acute.

On February 11, 1898 the city trustees voted to remedy the situation. The Santa Monica Outlook reported:

The sanitary committee reported that a room for hospital purposes could be built adjoining the jail at a cost of \$75.00. The committee was instructed to have the work done.⁴

Thus the city's first emergency room was part of the city jail. It was used for medical emergencies and also to store bodies for the county coroner's office. The practice of connecting the city hospital room to the city jail repeated with the construction of the new city prison in 1913.

1902. The next location for police headquarters would also have space for a city jail. The "new" Town Hall, located at the northwest corner of Fourth Street and Oregon Avenue (now Santa Monica Boulevard), was started in 1902 and completed in 1903 by H. X. Goetz, contractor. The architect for the project was C. H. Brown of Los Angeles. This location was served on Oregon Avenue by the

Pacific Electric Co. trains and on Fourth Street by the local traction company trolley. The Town Hall designation would give way to City Hall in 1905 when a board of freeholders was elected to draft a city charter.

The Daily Outlook described the building during its construction:⁵

The main entrance on the east side facing Fourth Street opened into a grand hallway, 14 feet wide and 82 feet long with a 14 foot high ceiling. The 16' by 25' marshal's office was located on the first floor and had a 'vault accommodation.'

1903. The official opening of the new city hall occurred on March 19, 1903.⁶ However, the Board of Trustees held their first meeting in the new hall on the preceding Monday night. This first meeting was covered by The Los Angeles Times, The Review and The Daily Outlook. The Daily Outlook reporter commented that the Trustees were "very comfortable, indeed."⁷

The jail, consisting of two small cells, was located in the basement. Each cell had a small window to the outside through which passed very little sunlight and even less warmth. These conditions earned the jail

the title "Black hole of Calcutta."

1912. By 1912 City Hall was nearly ten years old. The police department continued to grow, just as the city had grown. This growth caused crowding in both the offices of the city hall and the two small jail cells. The crowding situation had become such a public scandal that the county grand jury was investigating. Chief Randall needed to enlist the public's support to modernize and to expand the police department's facilities. After all, with modern developments such as a detective bureau and an identification bureau becoming a reality, the space was indeed inadequate.

Seven women of the community visited the jail at Chief Randall's request in an attempt to exert pressure on the populace-at-large to improve the jail. The Daily Outlook reporter covering this story provided a vivid description of the basement jail.⁸

It is beneath the city hall, in a spot where the dampness seeps through in wet weather, with tiny windows, through which but a few rays of sunlight penetrate, and the smallest imaginable amount of fresh air. Absolutely no warmth from the sunshine out of doors is felt, the only heat



1903-1912 - The Marshal's office was located on the first floor of the new City Hall building, opened in 1903.

being from the recently installed steam furnace. There are two small cells in which all the prisoners must be confined together. One of these is kept for the women and better class of offenders. Criminals, minor offenders and boys of tender age must be herded here not unlike swine. There are only two mattresses on the cement floors for beds, and absolutely no other furnishings. It is very seldom that women are confined in the jail, owing to the conditions and these are often given the larger room, which is used as a store room for the force. As this room is not barricaded an officer must stand all night on guard in the door way, which is neither pleasant for him or the woman. The chief and women felt this morning that incarceration in such a spot would degrade the prisoner rather than work a correction.

The Los Angeles County Grand Jury also was conducting an inquiry into the conditions within the Santa Monica city jail. In February 1912, the newly elected city council members, the mayor and the chief were

again summoned to appear before this body. The verdict of the grand jury, handed down in March and reported in the Daily Outlook on March 22, was that the jail was a 'shame and disgrace' and that the city must construct a new facility.⁹

Initially the city fathers had looked for a central location that was away from the city hall for the new police station and jail. On March 23, 1912, the Daily Outlook reported that a site had been chosen for the new police station. The article listed the site as:

Lots O, P. and Q on Fourth Street between the residences of R. R. Tanner and B. Sues.

However, by June 24, the council had voted to proceed with the "improvements to the city hall and the building of the new city jail as planned by Architect Hollwedel."¹⁰ The building was constructed at the back of the existing city hall and fronted on Santa Monica Boulevard (formerly Oregon Avenue). Apparently, the city's original concerns about "marring" the

appearance of City Hall were allayed.

1913. The Daily Outlook's bold headline read "New Jail is Model of Class...Every provision made for the future growth of the city and to care for all classes of offenders or injured ones."¹¹ Construction of the new police station and city jail was rapidly reaching completion. Both were to open on Saturday, March 1, 1913.

With tremendous ceremony and festive decoration the new station and jail were opened for public inspection. The main entrance was on Santa Monica Boulevard; a side entrance was in the alley between Third and Fourth Streets where officers could bring prisoners into the jail.

The Daily Outlook printed a floor by floor description of the station.

Chief Randall and Captain Calkins were on hand to greet visitors as they entered and explain things generally. Mrs. Leavitt, the matron, was on duty in the female department and her

pleasant and cozy room had been made attractive and homelike. Sergeant Ewing was on duty at the desk, Sergeant Randall on the first floor of the jail and Officer Engrem in charge of the second floor. Captain Austin of the detective department was in charge of the finger print and identification and explained this to the visitors. The hospital was thoroughly equipped while next to it the cabinet kitchen was in the best of condition and ready for service at any time.

Upstairs Officer Sandlin was in charge of the locker room where the police take their rest and recreation and prepare for duty.

The article continues describing the festivities and lists to personnel of the department, a total of nineteen people. The finale for this journalistic piece is a description of the new "city prison."

The prison proper, located in the new building is in reality a fireproof structure with reinforced concrete walls, floors, ceilings and partitions, and

with stairs of steel and windows of wired glass. In the prison there are three floors or tiers of cells. On the first floor there is a bathroom with tub and shower baths, six double cells and one padded cell, all for women, also a room for the matron. On the upper two tiers are sixteen double and three single cells for male prisoners, also one padded cell. All told the cells will accommodate forty nine prisoners, and in a pinch the corridors are as secure as the cells. This number of cells may seem to be in excess of present requirements, but it was thought wise to build for the future.

The cell work is modern and up-to-date in every respect, the doors from the cells opening on to the exercising corridors, and each cell lighted and ventilated with a large window in the corridor and in addition there is a large ventilating flue connected to each cell. The cells are unusually large and are constructed with solid 1/6" steel plate partitions with fronts and doors of heavy, steel bar gratings, in each cell is a toilet and steel bunks that fold against the wall when not in use.

The cell doors are locked at three points by means of heavy prison locks opened by key, also by means of a locking devise (sic), by which any single or any number of doors in a section may be locked or unlocked and the doors opened and closed from a mechanism placed in a steel box outside each corridor door. This enables the officer to open or close any cell door at will without entering the corridor and exposing himself to danger and assault by a vicious prisoner. For a prisoner to escape after being locked in his cell, will require him to get through three steel doors of equal strength, the cell door, the corridor door and the door that closes the only entrance into the prison and which opens directly into the police station in full view of the sergeant at the desk, whose position is such that he has in full view all means of egress an ingress into any part of the building; at his left is the door to the police court, in front of him is the chief's office and the front door, and to his right are the rear entrance door, through which prisoners are brought in, also the door to the prison, the hospital, the captain's room and the stairs leading down from the men's room upstairs.



1912-1938 City Hall Police Annex – Public pressure over deplorable jail conditions resulted in the decision to construct a police station and jail adjacent to City Hall. The police entrance is on the left in this photo, with a man standing in the doorway.

In the rear is built a garage, for the use of a future auto patrol and which opens onto the inside courtyard between the new building and city hall.¹²

This article mentions the emergency hospital room which was part of the police station. This was a practice carried over from the first city hospital room in 1898. The Police Commission appointed Dr. F. J. Wagner as Police Surgeon. Wagner's office was located a few steps from the city jail and emergency hospital.

1937. The Santa Monica Topics of May 26, 1937 announced the impending sale, at auction, of the antiquated City Hall. The article stated:

Today the city fathers will complete plan² authorizing the City of Santa Monica to sell her City Hall to the highest bidder, satisfying the exacting requests of the PWA authorities in Washington, to establish definite values in the proposed sale so that these can be added up in the estimates of cost, for the proposed Civic Center plan in Non-Man's Land, to be worked out at no cost to the taxpayer.¹³

Crime mystery writer Raymond Chandler described the City Hall at the end of its useful life in his story Farewell, My Lovely:

It was a cheap looking building for so prosperous a town. It looked more like something out of the Bible belt. ... The building was of three stories and had an old belfry at the top, the bell still hanging in the belfry.

Chandler placed the Chief's office on the second floor at the end of the hall on the ocean side of the building. The chief's character in the book describes the view from his office in each direction of the compass:

I look out my western windows and I see the Pacific Ocean. Nothing cleaner than that, is there? Chandler's main character, private detective Phillip Marlowe, responded to the question with just a thought: 'He didn't mention the two gambling ships that were hull down on the brass waves just beyond the three-mile limit.'

The chief's character continued:

I look out of my northern windows and

I see the busy bustle of Arguello Boulevard (Wilshire Boulevard) and the lovely California foothills, and in the near foreground one of the nicest little business sections a man could want to know. I look out of my southern windows, which I am looking out of right now, and I see the finest little yacht harbor in the world, for a small yacht harbor. I don't have no eastern windows, but if I did have, I would see a residential section that would make your mouth water.¹⁴

1938. Construction of the 'new' City Hall was officially started on October 27, 1938. The Santa Monica Topics carried a photograph of the ground breaking ceremony.

As a requirement of receiving a PWA grant to build the new City Hall, the sale of the old building had to be completed by January 10, 1939. The "old" City Hall was legally abandoned on December 7, 1938 at noon, well before the deadline.¹⁵ The last offices to be vacated were the police department and the city jail. The city leased space in the LaMonica Ballroom on the pier to house the police department, life guard service and city aquarium.



1938 LaMonica Ballroom – The historic entertainment destination on the pier served as the temporary home to the Police Department during construction of the new City Hall.



1939 City Hall North – When City government moved to new offices in 1939, the Police Department and Jail occupied the north wing, seen here from a section of Olympic Boulevard near the terminus of today's Santa Monica Freeway.

The police department and jail were moved to the second floor of the ballroom. During the move, all prisoners were housed in the jail at Beverly Hills. On December 13 the temporary jail at the La Monica Ballroom was ready to receive prisoners.

1939. "Prisoner Breaks Out of City's Temporary Jail" was the headline of the Evening Outlook.¹⁶ Robbery suspect Albert Otis Bryan was jailed in the temporary jail at the La Monica Ballroom on the evening of February 1, 1939. He obtained a can of snuff from Officer Varcoe, against orders of the sergeant. Using a piece of the steel from the can Bryan removed the grille from the single window in the cell, climbed through the window, dropped on to the pier west of the jail and fled. He was recaptured by Officers Edens and Reinbold, who were returning to Santa Monica from West Los Angeles.

There was civic concern about the wisdom and expense of constructing the temporary jail. One faction was of the opinion that renting space in the Beverly Hills city jail was a more cost effective solution. However, Chief Dice and Santa Monica Mayor Gillette prevailed and the temporary jail was constructed in the old ballroom.

In the last quarter of 1939 the "new" City Hall was nearly complete. The PWA grant had imposed a deadline of November 22, 1939 for the completion of all contracts. Speculation about the actual move in date started in September with mention of October 15. As with most building projects, this date came and went. On October 16, the moving date was set for November 15.

The actual date of final council acceptance of the new building was the afternoon of November 16. However, the lack of official acceptance did not deter certain departments from moving records and furniture that morning; the police record bureau was among them. The headquarters company of the fire department was already established in the new building (the south wing facing east).

Saturday, November 25, 1939, the City Hall was dedicated. In a ceremony viewed by the citizens of Santa Monica and representatives of other cities and the PWA, the building was dedicated by a solemn ritual performed by the Santa Monica Elks lodge.¹⁷ Many speeches were made and flags were presented against the backdrop of the escalating war in Europe. The theme of the dedication

was democracy and Americanism.¹⁸ The building was constructed for \$370,000-\$158,000 from the PWA grant and the remainder from the sale of the old City Hall. Tours of the building became the order of the day.

The police department occupied the north wing of the U-shaped building. The main entrance faced Olympic Boulevard (The freeway was not even a dream yet). The first floor housed the "desk" manned by the desk sergeant. This was the public's first point of contact with the department.

1959. On June 3, 1959, the police department once again moved to new quarters. The City Hall annex, built specifically as a police station, was connected to the old jail on the north side and the abandoned fire headquarters on the south side. The U-shape of the City Hall was closed, forming a courtyard. The new police station faced eastward with the front doors opening on Fourth Street. The new building was two stories with a full basement.

The basement housed an officers' locker room, the property room and an indoor pistol range. Adjacent to the locker room was the squad room, where on-coming officers were



1959 Police Annex – This early photo shows the recently retired Police Headquarters annex on the east side of City Hall as it appeared when it was completed in 1959. The façade was later modified by a memorial wall placed in front of the entrance and a building expansion completed in 1979.

briefed. There was an office for Civil Defense at the back of the squad room.

The first floor was occupied by the Record Division, the police radio, the sergeant's office, and the patrol office. The Traffic Division used three offices; the center office had a counter for contact with the public. There were additional counters in the Record Division and the sergeant's office. Officers who worked the warrant detail had their own office. The Identification Bureau, adjacent to the record division, contained a darkroom, lab, workroom and offices for a technician and statistician. Finally, a small report room was available for officers to complete their reports.

The second floor was home to the detective and juvenile bureaus and the offices of the Chief of Police and the Assistant Chief. The detective bureau was a large open room filled with desks. There were four interview rooms (complete with listening devices) and a kitchen. The detective captain had a private office with a closet which contained the recording equipment for the interview room's listening devices. The Juvenile Bureau was separate from the Detective Bureau. The Juvenile Bureau had a reception area, Lieutenant's office, detective room and children's room. The Office of the

Chief of Police was above the main entrance to the building. The office of the Assistant Chief was adjacent, separated by two secretary's offices.

The new building was connected to the old jail. The jail was updated and facilities were added. On the first floor were added trustee's quarters, a holding cell and the booking cage; a women's and juvenile section, matron's locker room and day rooms were built on the second story.

The large equipment bays from the old fire station (which was abandoned in 1954) were used as the "motor" garage, storage for the department's two and three wheeled motorcycles.

1970. The interior of the police annex changed over the years. One of these changes occurred in 1970, the addition of a new security feature—closed circuit television monitoring. Cameras were placed at the entrances of the jail, the booking area and juvenile cells. These cameras fed monitors in the booking office and the watch commander's office.

1979. With the continued growth of the department, the police station was becoming more and more crowded. The demands made on the department from the community and the city gov-

ernment called for more officers, female officers, more training, more attention to the physical conditioning of the officers and an improved communications system. These demands exceeded the capabilities of the existing station. The additional officers would quickly outgrow the existing locker room. The addition of female officers (since 1974) created another locker room problem. The female officers were using the Matron's locker room on the second floor of the jail. Female officers of the future would require additional space.

The police radio room, which was a small two-seat affair next to the watch commander's office (separated by a half glass wall), was from the 60s and had equipment on the low frequency radio band. (50 mc) The department needed equipment which could take advantage of computer aided dispatching.

With the goals of modernization and expansion, the department set in motion plans that called for an addition south of the motor garage and the remodeling of the garage. The motor garage housed only a handful of aging three wheel motorcycles; this space was under utilized. The addition would be a new locker room and shower facility for male officers.

The old garage would be remodeled into a two-story space with a weight room, sauna-jacuzzi, and a female locker room on the first floor; on the second floor would be a lounge and office for the police officers' association, an administrative locker room, a conference room and additional office space.

These plans made the old basement locker room available for conversion into a state of the art communications center. The old radio room would eventually become the new watch commander's office, and the old watch

commander's office would become the new report room. The old report room then was converted into office space and became home for the parking enforcement office.

The construction was completed at the end of 1979. At that point, there was a noticeable separation between the police officers and the sergeants, lieutenants and captains; having shared locker space for twenty years, shoulder to shoulder, the ranks were now separated by one floor.

Just like most buildings, the station has

been modified through time to meet changing needs. There have been facelifts of tired office space and reconfiguring of work spaces as computer systems have replaced typewriters and old card files. In addition, the space left from the phasing out of some programs has been reassigned. The department continues to grow and the citizens of Santa Monica continue to expect more service which has created a shortage of space in the current station. Small sheds, storage containers and space in the Municipal Bus Lines headquarters building have been added to correct the shortage.



333 Olympic Drive – Address of the City of Santa Monica's Public Safety Facility, new home to the Santa Monica Police and Fire Departments.

- 1- In 1993, the department changed to using "plain language" instead of the Ten-code on the radio.
- 2- Daily Outlook Tuesday, March 17, 1903 "The Town Trustees First Meeting in The New Hall"
- 3- The Outlook, Wednesday, April 17, 1889 "Local Intelligence"
- 4- Santa Monica Outlook, February 11, 1898 "For a Hospital"
- 5- The Daily Outlook, Thursday, September 18, 1902 "City Hall Building Described"
- 6- The Daily Outlook, Friday, March 20, 1903 "It Was A Great Crowd"
- 7- The Daily Outlook, Tuesday, March 17, 1903 "The Town Trustees First Meeting in The New Hall"
- 8- The Daily Outlook, Wednesday, January 17, 1912 "Women Condemn City Jail"
- 9- The Daily Outlook, Friday, March 22, 1912 "Shame and Disgrace; Verdict On Our Jail"
- 10- The Daily Outlook, Tuesday, June 25, 1912, "City Jail Will Be Built"
- 11- The Daily Outlook, Wednesday, February 15, 1913 "New Jail Is Model Of Class"
- 12- The Daily Outlook, Saturday, March 1, 1913 "New Jail Is Opened Today"
- 13- Santa Monica Topics, May 26, 1937 "Archaic City Hall On Block Today"
- 14- Farewell, My Lovely, Raymond Chandler, 1940, Alfred Knopf publisher.
- 15- Evening Outlook, December 7, 1938 "Old City Hall Legally Abandoned"
- 16- Evening Outlook, February 2, 1939 "Prisoner Breaks Out Of City's Temporary Jail"
- 17- With the country recovering from the depression the PWA was absorbed by the Federal Works Agency and finally liquidated in 1940.
- 18- Evening Outlook, Saturday, November 25, 1939 "New City Hall Dedicated With Elks And Native Sons Ritual As High U.S. Officials Watch From Stand"

A Room With A View

State-of-the-Art Communications Center

For over twenty years, the Santa Monica Police Department Communications Center operated in the dimly lit basement of Police Headquarters, accessible through the Department's only briefing room. In its own time, the facility was considered state-of-the-art. Certainly, it was an improvement over the closet-sized "radio room" that was its predecessor. Placement of the Communications Center in the basement was founded on a prevalent 1970s theory that workers in stressful jobs benefit from a sequestered environment with minimal distractions from the elements of nature. Faith in that theory waned when, shortly after moving to the basement, the attrition rate among Communications Operators began to climb. The relocated dispatchers said they missed the natural light and the bustle of station activity. Even the addition of a large aquarium did little to reduce turnover or the recruitment and overtime costs to maintain service levels.

In 2003, the Communications Operators were finally rewarded for a quarter century spent in the windowless, claustrophobic basement environment. The Public Safety Facility's new Police Communications Center has turned that old design theory on its head.

Upon entering the new Communications Center, the most striking feature is the spacious, wedge-shaped room itself. It is truly a 'room with a view,' with windows filling half of the exterior wall space. During daylight hours, soft natural light replaces the flickering fluorescence that dominated the old Communications Center. A wide

swath of Santa Monica and the distant skyline can be seen from the windows. The views give the Communications Operators a renewed sense of connection with the activities of the City and the bustle in the streets below.

The dispatch consoles are arranged in clusters, with nearly double the amount of individual workspace as before. Each workstation has independent environmental controls for heat, cooling, and lighting. Communications Operators can adjust the ambient ventilation to meet personal preferences without affecting their co-workers. Furnishings feature adjustable sit-stand workstations. The keyboard platform can be raised or lowered to conform to individual needs and adjusted periodically to

reduce fatigue over the course of a long shift.

Access to creature comforts also reduces stress and fatigue. The Communications Center is designed to function as a self-contained unit complete with restrooms, a break room, conference room and dedicated training area.

Environmental design is but one aspect of the improvements planned into the new Communications Center. The selected technology also reflects the time invested in research to make it a state-of-the-art facility for the future.

To ensure that the technology was stable and ready for a full traffic load, the Police and Fire Communications



Communications Center, 1916 style. Chief Clarence Webb handles the phones and the Front Desk.



Quarters were crowded in 1978, but dispatchers said they enjoyed being in the midst of station activity.

functions were relocated weeks prior to the general move into the PSF. Had a failure occurred, systems managers were prepared to switch back to the old system on a moment's notice.

All dispatch equipment is new. Non-glare flat panel screens were selected for the dispatch consoles because they are larger and easier on the eyes. The new desktop computer system units are the most powerful and stable available, further insurance against failure during peak demand periods.

The powerful new computers also made it possible to upgrade the Department's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system in time for the move. CAD now includes a mapping

component that visually plots the location of patrol units and calls for service in the queue. The dispatcher can refer to the digital map display to see a graphic representation of the calls shown on the CAD event screen.

The consoles are very well laid out. The event screen in front of the dispatcher displays information on the specific incident. A separate screen provides continuously updated status information on all incidents in progress, as well as the status and availability of patrol units.

As part of the new 9-1-1 system upgrades, substantially paid through LLEBG grant funding, the Communications Center was equipped with all new phones. A new

Vesta system was added that has as its primary feature *call forcing*. Vesta relieves a busy dispatcher from answering and putting calls on hold or letting phones ring. If the dispatcher is available, the call goes directly to the dispatcher. When the dispatcher is busy on a call, other incoming calls are placed in one of two queues based on their priority, 9-1-1 emergency calls and non-emergency calls. A pre-recorded voice lets callers know the status of their calls in the queue. The effect of Vesta on the work environment is obvious. The incessant sound of ringing phones is replaced by calming silence. Reader boards were added to ensure that the Communications Operators remain cognizant of the queued calls. The reader boards have large displays

Mobile Digital Computers (MDC) mounted in the patrol vehicles enable officers to run DMV, warrant and criminal history checks directly. Formerly, the officers had to request that the dispatcher run the checks and relay the information. The addition of the MDCs relieves dispatcher time, reduces radio traffic and improves the security of the confidential information being transmitted.

Large wall-mounted Gateway plasma display screens allow supervisors, department managers and visitors to

observe and monitor field activities without interrupting the dispatch activities. This resource will be invaluable in the event of a major incident requiring the hands-on involvement of command staff.

Security is a concern for a building the size of the new Public Safety Facility. The Communications Center and other strategic interior locations were outfitted with scrolling message boards that display internal security information. Dispatchers are responsible for clearing any security breach

in their specified areas of the Public Safety Facility.

The smaller Fire Communications Center is located next door to the Police Communications Center. Although the two departments share the facilities and environment, a joint decision was made to maintain independent Police and Fire communications. Under normal conditions, there is no mutual impact on operations and no joint working plan.



As a former Communications Operator, Officer Adam Gwartz is duly impressed with the improvements in dispatch technology and work environment

However, there is a great economic benefit in the shared use of infrastructure and resources. Lower overall maintenance support and upgrade expenditures, a common infrastructure that ensures compatibility and interoperability, and a single time source for both sides all contribute to a significant cost savings.

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC), managed by the Fire Department, is located in close proximity to the two Communications Centers. The EOC, should it be deployed, will use the same technologies as the Communications Centers, resulting in further cost savings and efficiency. In the event of a regional emergency, it will be convenient to key decision-makers to have all emergency services resources under one roof.

It is too soon to judge whether these improvements will encourage Communications Operators to stay in the classification longer. Everyone agrees, however, that the new environment is not likely to drive anyone away.

The Santa Monica Police Department has an authorized strength of 18 Communications Operators and four supervisors to serve 92 sworn officers deployed across three patrol shifts, and a varying number of detectives, special enforcement, supervisors, and uniformed civilian personnel on the air at any given time.

New Communications Operators spend a total of 38 weeks in a structured training program, learning progressively more complex duties. Three training blocks, each consisting



Officer Capri Redondo saves dispatch time by running inquiries directly from the patrol car's Mobile Digital Computer

of two to three-weeks, are followed by eight to ten weeks of closely supervised on-the-job training, first on a simulator, before progressing to real duties.

As part of their training, Communications Operators go on ride-alongs to observe calls from the perspective of the field officer. In addition to patrol officers, they spend time observing harbor guards, animal control officers, park rangers, airport officers, bicycle and other special detail officers. The ride-along familiarizes the Communications Operator with the geography of the city and its problem areas. They often return with ideas for improvements in procedures and applications that are mutually useful.

For information about becoming a Police Communications Operator, contact the City of Santa Monica Human Resources Department at (310) 458-8246 or visit the website at: <http://santa-monica.org/hr/index.htm>.

A Symbol of Public Faith

History Reflected in a Badge

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service.

(From the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics)

On June 1st, those with an attention to detail might have noticed something different about the SMPD uniform.

On that day, the Santa Monica Police Department officially retired the badge worn by all sworn and uniformed civilian personnel since 1979 in favor of an entirely redesigned badge.

The new badge design was created at

the direction of the Chief of Police to commemorate a major milestone in the Department's history -- the completion and occupancy of the new Public Safety Facility. In addition to the City's traditional logo, the badge prominently features a rendering of the west façade of the Public Safety Facility.

The badge design conveys a unique organizational identity and a symbol that the community can embrace and associate with the Santa Monica Police Department.

The Entenmann-Rovin Company designed the badge with input from Chief James T. Butts, Jr., Captain Gary Gallinot, Lieutenant Frank Fabrega,

Lieutenant George Centeno, Sergeant Al Acosta, and Range Master Jason Mann. The badge underwent several revisions based on input from the men and women of the Santa Monica Police Department.

Over the agency's history, the design of the badge worn by members of the Santa Monica Police Department has changed several times. A closer look at the historical badges reveals the extent to which each reflects the social, organizational and artistic outlook of its time.

Shown in chronological order below and on the facing page:



1

The "Star Badge" was the first Santa Monica Police Department badge, worn from 1896 to 1915. Its simplicity of design is a holdover from the lawmen's tin badges of the Old West. The star design is still the tradition for most sheriff and marshal agencies.



2

The uniquely shaped gold and blue badge issued from 1915 to 1937 depicts Santa Monica Bay. The crescent bay, palm trees, and Queen Califia's artistic pose reveal influences of the late Art Nouveau period in which the badge was designed. Unlike other badges in the SMPD collection, this one is engraved: 'Founded 1769,' a reference to the year Santa Monica Bay was discovered. Only the badges issued initially had this somewhat misleading date reference, and some of them had the date obliterated, although still visible from the back. The eagle's eye contains a single gemstone.



3

The badge designed in 1937 was issued throughout the World War II period until 1948. It was the first badge designed on the oval shield background that has been retained ever since. The date has been corrected to "1875" to reflect the founding of the City of Santa Monica. Like its predecessor, the badge is gold and contains gemstones, set in each of its four stars. The badge belonged to a retired police chief; thus it is unlikely badges carried by active officers were so opulently adorned.



4

In 1948, the shield badge was redesigned with similar features, minus the gemstones. For the first time, a combination of silver and gold metals was used. This style badge was issued until 1959.



5

In 1959, bright enameling was added to the City Seal on the badge, perhaps a reflection of the great advances being made in colorization of photography and motion pictures.



6

Although the Chief's badge remained unchanged from 1959 until 1983, modifications in the badge issued to other ranks reflected changing social dynamics. Traditionally, the sequentially numbered badges for each rank had been collected and redistributed by seniority each year, a practice that ended in 1974, when each officer's serial number was added to the bottom banner. Also in 1974, the title on the upper banner was changed from 'Patrolman' to 'Police Officer' to reflect the hiring of the first female police officer.



7

From 1983 to 1994, officers carried the relatively plain "Shell Badge," so named because of its background motif representing a seashell. The shell badge was the first to depict a recognizable Santa Monica image: the Public Works Administration 'Moderne' style City Hall building constructed in 1939. The badge retained the combination gold and silver metals used in earlier designs.



8

This badge, issued from 1994 until it was retired on June 1, 2003, retains elements of the Shell Badge in its shape, background motif and depiction of City Hall. The more ornate overall rendering results from the liberal use of gold metal for scrolls, to replace enamel elements, and as an added border braid treatment.

Education and Volunteerism

Programs for Students and the Community

The mission of the Santa Monica Police Department is greatly enhanced by four important Department-sponsored programs designed for students and adult members of the community. Participants gain education, experience and insight into the role of law enforcement in society. In turn, the Police Department benefits from the extra helping hands and from the relationships forged with youth and the community.

Students 14 to 19 years of age with an interest in law enforcement are invited to volunteer for the Police Explorer Program. To qualify, a student must have at least a "C" average in school, be of good moral character, and have no serious arrest record. There is no Santa Monica residency requirement.

Police Explorers must meet the same basic physical requirements as a Police Officer. The application procedure consists of a written history, an oral interview with the parents or guardian present, and a complete background check. The ideal applicant demonstrates maturity, a genuine interest in crime and the law, and a desire to effectively assist the Police Department.

The Explorer Program has a twofold purpose. It offers young men and women a means to determine, through actual experience and training, if they would like to pursue a career in law enforcement as adults. The program also garners additional human resources for the Police Department while developing working relationships that provide insight and understanding of today's youth.

Law Enforcement Explorer Posts are active in police agencies throughout the nation.

Police Explorers carry out a host of responsible assignments that build skills and provide valuable work experience. Explorers work with sworn Police Officers on non-hazardous duties such as assisting in crime reduction campaigns, evidence searches, disaster assistance, community and civic events.

Police Explorers are volunteers, but are fully insured while in training and on duty. New members are expected to furnish their own uniforms and equipment upon acceptance into the program; however, special considerations can be arranged for those who cannot afford the initial cost.

After acceptance into the program, initial training takes place at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Explorer Academy. The academy consists of twenty consecutive Saturdays and includes over 180 hours of instruction on such subjects as demeanor, firearms safety, narcotics control, police procedures, first aid, criminal law, and community relations. Trainees participate in close-order drill and physical training in addition to their classroom work. Successful completion of the academy is a requirement to become a member of the Santa Monica Explorer Post. Satisfactory completion of the academy also earns the Explorer a basic first aid/CPR certificate and ten units of high school credit. In some cases, college credit can also be earned.

Explorer experience on a resume conveys to the business and academic



The various duties of Police Explorers include serving as color guard at official events.



A rising star: Explorer Jaden Risner accepts a commendation from Chief Butts upon his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. Also on hand to congratulate Jaden are Explorer Program sponsors, Officer H. Ahn and Officer R. Villegas.

world that the applicant is a self-disciplined achiever.

Police Cadet Program

College age students who would like to evaluate a career in law enforcement while holding a paid position may wish to apply for the Police Cadet Program. Some Police Cadets are former or concurrent members of the Santa Monica Explorer Post.

The Police Cadet Program is a three-

year program open to applicants age 18 years or older, who are enrolled in college and carrying at least 9 units with a 2.0 or better grade point average. The application process includes a written application and an oral interview. The applicant must pass a background examination before commencing work.

The program does not obligate the applicant to a career in law enforcement. However, many Santa Monica police officers and supervisors started their careers as Police Cadets.

The Police Department recognizes that school is the first priority, and gives consideration for the demands of the school schedule. In general, Police Cadets work 20 hours per week on a weekday work schedule that is arranged around the class schedule. Hours are flexible, especially during midterms and finals, when time off is allowed to study and take exams.

To continue as a Police Cadet, a student must sustain a 2.0 or better grade point average. Grades are checked each term.

Police Cadets receive a Chief's Commendations for their hard work in preparation to move to the Public Safety Facility.



Police Cadets earn pay well above minimum wage and work in various capacities. A Police Cadet may be assigned to any one of the four Offices within the Police Department, and may rotate into other assignments, giving a true inside picture of government and police functions. Cadets often have a chance to interact with members of the City Council, City Manager, City Attorney or other City departments.

Cadets learn job skills in a structured environment that offers exposure to computers, record keeping, vehicle maintenance, phones and public contact work. They learn punctuality, responsibility, and the art of cooperation with supervisors and peers in a real work environment. Cadets wear a uniform and learn the importance of proper attire and how to represent the City in a positive manner.

Additional information about becoming a Police Cadet is available on the City website at <http://santamonicapd.org/Employment/JobClass/PoliceCadet.htm>. Applications are taken at the Police Department.

Contact: Anita Gonzales in the Resource Development Division, (310) 458-8412, for instructions.

Police Reserve Corps

The Police Reserve Corps seeks serious volunteers interested in helping their community by working alongside sworn police officers in an unpaid capacity. The Police Reserve Corps is open to adults who are high school graduates or equivalent, and possess a valid Class C driver license. There is no Santa Monica residency requirement.



Reserve Officer Mark Hoffman prepares hospital admission paperwork for a suspect in need of medical treatment.

Reserve Officers have the same educational, testing and background requirements as paid Police Officers. Applicants accepted into the program attend a ten-month Police Reserve Academy consisting of the same curriculum and training as Police Officers. Classes are usually held two weeknights per week and alternate weekends. Reserve Academy graduates earn the Basic California P.O.S.T. Certificate required to join the Police Reserve Corps.

After successful completion of the academy, the Reserve Officer is assigned to a Field Training Officer (FTO) for a period of on-the-job training and evaluation. Upon completion of the FTO program, the officer is ready for the Reserve Corps.

Members of the Reserve Officer Corps carry out fieldwork. On the

job, Reserve Officers wear a standard-issue uniform, carry a badge and have arrest authority. Assignments may be in the Office of Operations, working as the second in a two-person patrol car or the second or third on a foot beat. Other assignments may involve working with detectives in the Office of Criminal Investigations, or with a traffic or special unit in the Office of Special Enforcement. Reserve Officers are not assigned to motorcycle or SWAT operations. Reserve Officers are required to work a minimum of two shifts (20 hours) per month. There is no maximum number of hours.

The Reserve Officer Program attracts professionals who possess the physical stamina and fitness to pass academy training. Some are former officers who have gone on to become lawyers or entrepreneurs but wish to

stay in touch with law enforcement. Typically, they have free time and wish to use it to return something to the community.

The Santa Monica Reserve Officer Program is limited to 25 participants.

The SMPD Reserve Coordinator receives all applications, and may be reached at: (310) 458-8443.

Volunteer Program

The volunteer program is open to adults who have time and a skill to donate to public safety in their community. Nearly all volunteers are graduates of the Santa Monica Police Department Citizen Academy, where they gain a solid foundation and understanding of the organization and procedures of the Department.

There are currently 30 volunteers who regularly contribute in some capacity in the Police Department. Volunteers are assigned based on their unique background, skills and abilities. Some help the Police Officers who staff the Front Desk at the Public

Safety facility. Others help to keep paperwork backlogs under control by regularly taking on clerical and investigative support duties. Still others serve as interns, often through local universities, in work units that require research background or a more specialized or technical role.

Some volunteers can't commit to a weekly work schedule, but are available to help organize and prepare for special community projects and events. These volunteers assist the Community Relations staff to organize neighborhood watch block parties, help answer questions at crime prevention booths or add local color to fairs and events with their facepainting or clown skills. Volunteers may also help in police investigations and campaigns by working DUI and seat-belt checkpoints, or distributing bulletins to alert residents to a particular criminal modus operandi in their neighborhood.

Police Department volunteers are provided with uniform caps and shirts. The garments help identify the volunteers to department personnel and the

public, while giving the volunteers a sense of identity with the department.

To inquire about the Citizen Academy, call the Community Relations Office at (310) 458-8474.

For information about the volunteer program at the Santa Monica Police Department, contact: Analia Montalvo, (310) 458-8774.

By law, all persons must pass a thorough background investigation prior to commencing work in a law enforcement agency. This requirement applies whether work is performed on a paid or unpaid status.



Volunteer Anoosh Askari takes time out from his official duties for a little people watching at the 2003 Grand Night Out.

Crime-Solving Technology

New Applications in 2003

LAFIS

In 2003, the world of technology provided law enforcement with a powerful new tool to solve crime.

Informally called 'Cogent' after its developer, Cogent Systems of South Pasadena, California, the application is officially the Los Angeles Automated Fingerprint System, or LAFIS. It is made available to all 45 agencies in the Los Angeles County area through a county-based regional network. The \$125 million system is funded by penalties assessed to criminals and a \$1 motor vehicle fee.

The proprietary software and super-computer technology accurately performs biometric comparisons and returns real-time identification and authentication. The Cogent technology is applicable in any discipline that benefits from computer searching based on pattern recognition. It can search a database containing millions of records without using pattern classifiers or other filters that can diminish accuracy. The system can search at a rate of 500,000 comparisons per second, and has storage for 20 terabytes of information. (1 TB=1000 GB) As a result, the Cogent technology serves up the most technically advanced, accurate, reliable and cost effective identification solutions available in the world today.

The value of the Cogent LAFIS application to law enforcement is its ability to search on latent finger and palm prints recovered from crime scenes. Before LAFIS, palm prints were only compared if there was a known suspect. LAFIS technology dramatically increases the possibility of identifying

a suspect. The countywide searchable database is second only to the FBI's in size, with 250,000 palm prints and 4 million fingerprints. The scope and power of a LAFIS search is multiplied by the fact that it has access to those FBI databases.

The Forensic Section manages the Santa Monica Police Department's LAFIS site. The Forensic Section is responsible for the collection, processing and analysis of fingerprints, photos, forensic and other crime scene evidence. To prepare for implementation, Forensic Specialists reviewed, verified and submitted 1,019 palm cards to LAFIS to be scanned and added to the database.

LAFIS went on-line countywide in October and in Santa Monica on November 15, 2003. In that short time, the system has returned over 80 confirmed latent fingerprint and palm print matches, five of them on Santa

Monica Police Department cases.

CRIME MAPPING

The science of mapping crime incidents by location has been around as long as there have been pushpins. But pushpins reveal only one dimension of the crimes: Where past incidents were committed.

Modern crime mapping technology has greatly expanded the crime-solving horizon for crime analysts and investigators. With an accurate underlying geographical file and an up-to-date incident database, computer-mapping software can search multiple criteria and reveal crime patterns that would go undetected on an ordinary pushpin map.

Crime mapping software has been available for a decade, but has only recently become affordable to smaller agencies. In early 2003, the Santa



Forensic Specialist David Alonzo completes a latent palm print search using new Cogent Systems technology.

Monica Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit implemented an automated crime-mapping project funded by a 2001 grant from the State of California's Career Criminal Apprehension Program (C-CAP). The technology was to enhance the identification and apprehension of violent repeat offenders, including parolees and sex registrants. The project goal was to cross-reference registrant and parolee addresses with crime incidents around schools, parks and playgrounds.

The software selected was CrimeView, a product developed by the Omega Group of San Diego, California. Before the mapping software could be used reliably, Crime Analysis Unit personnel rebuilt the City's geographical database, originally designed for public utility billing, to meet the analytical needs of law enforcement. When the work was done, the unit wasted no time in expanding the project scope to take full advantage of the CrimeView software's capabilities.

As the Department commenced its pilot study of Neighborhood Centered Policing, crime mapping became a critical resource. Maps helped NCP coordinators validate the extent of specific crime problems identified by citizens in the City's self-defined neighborhoods and let them share with the groups a visualization of actual crime patterns in their neighborhoods. The visual cues help channel group problem solving capabilities toward the most persistent problems and the best tactics to eradicate those problems.

Computer generated map queries are

time frame from a single day to a year or more, or focused on a specific hour of the day. Queries are limited only by the amount of data in the database. For example, a crime pattern study might combine obvious factors, such as robbery and time of day, with less obvious factors, such as victim type of fast food restaurants and locations near freeway intersections. Overlaid upon the crime map is a street grid with locations of geographical and manmade landmarks such as banks, convenience stores, schools, parks and abandoned buildings. The result is often a striking but previously unrecognized correlation between crimes in a specific location that can identify why they are occurring there. Since criminals tend to repeat their successful criminal behavior, mapping opens the door to predictive modeling that analyzes data for patterns indicative of the time and place of future incidents. Armed with this knowledge, commanders can allocate resources toward the prevention of the next incident and the apprehension of the offender.

Advanced mapping software can

study a vector within a given number of feet of a target address or location. This sometimes reveals a vital correlation with past crimes that might otherwise go unnoticed.

In addition to the Crime Analysis Unit, the mapping resources were made available in the Communications Center. Real time data is available in the Department's CAD system to generate an interactive display of field activity as it is taking place.

The CAD mapping application demonstrates that the faster data is added to the database, the more useful the information. Plans for future technology include direct downloading of automated report data to the Record Management System (RMS) from the mobile digital computers already installed in patrol cars. The Department is also planning an automated vehicle locator (AVL) system for police vehicles. When that system is in place, mapping will keep responding patrol officers informed of backup units in the vicinity. Also under consideration is to eventually put crime mapping information on the Department website.



Crime Analyst Safa Egilmez (center) is assisted by Lieutenants William Brucker and Ray Cooper as he briefs OCI investigators on graphical results of a crime pattern study.

A Moving Anthology

From HQ to PSF

As members of SMPD spent their final days at the now retired HQ, some couldn't resist wondering about the last SMPD move day over 50 years ago. When that generation took occupancy of their new, clean, state-of-the-art 1956 Police Headquarters building, could they possibly have been as excited about the move as we were?

One can only speculate, because their experience that day was not captured in memos, photos, reports or other recordings. The only witness on duty both days is the headquarters building itself...and those sturdy old brick walls don't talk.

Move Day 2003 nearly met the same fate, until somebody had the foresight to ask a Forensic Specialist to unpack her camera and create a lasting record of the event.

So, lest we be subject to the same speculation a half-century from now, this "Moving Anthology" is dedicated to the men and women of the Santa Monica Police Department in the year 2053.



1-



2-



3-



4-



6-

- 1- Chief Butts patiently waits for his belongings to surface on the other side.
- 2- To ensure ongoing public service, Lieutenant William Brucker and Officer Robert Hernandez operated a temporary Watch Commander's office and Front Desk in the City Hall lobby.
- 3- So we're not the 21st Century's first "Paperless Police Department."
- 4- Traffic Services Division Supervisors Laura Murphy, Doris Jackson and Lieutenant Clinton Muir manage to find a light moment in all the chaos.
- 5- Community Services Officer Sharon Gallant keeps a watchful eye on lobby security while, in the background, Eric Uller awaits the next wave of speed packs.
- 6- Wake me when it's over: Internal Affairs Sergeant Doug Theus takes the whole moving matter in stride.
- 7- Forensic Supervisor Elaine Sena-Brown and Lieutenant Frank Fabrega ponder how they ever got all that stuff in the old identification room.
- 8- Lead Records Technician Leah Moore declares her new work area to be most satisfactory.



8-



9.



10.



11.



12.



13.



14.



15-



16-

- 9- Records Manager Carl Olson, CLETS Supervisor Vanassa Butts and Cadet Tracee Lewis make one last check of file boxes.
- 10- Who called out the bomb squad?
- 11- Remains of the day: The former Watch Commander's Office, once the hub of activity, sits deserted.
- 12- A typical hallway scene. The Fire Department would have cited us, but their hallways were worse.
- 13- Eric Uller, CLETS Supervisor Vanassa Butts and Property Supervisor Johnny Tarasut discuss placement of computer equipment with a moving company employee.
- 14- Movers form a speed cart convoy.
- 15- The Investigations briefing room was out of commission.
- 16- The Forensic Section will enjoy a skosh more room as they move their operations from a closet-sized room to a facility with ample space for equipment and storage.
- 17- Area Coordinators, designated to oversee move operations for their assigned work groups, received a Chief's commendation for their success.



17-

Crime Statistic Summary

A 40-Year Retrospective

PART 1 CRIME IN SANTA MONICA--1956 TO 2003

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	
		12%	19%	-12%	8%	7%	4%	-5%	22%	-5%	2%	
Person Crimes	139	149	149	134	142	224	244	193	384	372	394	
Homicide	8	9	6	6	8	6	10	10	10	9	7	
Rape	20	21	13	11	6	11	20	19	26	12	11	
Robbery	55	72	81	58	78	136	127	117	149	150	154	
Aggravated Assault	56	47	49	59	50	71	87	47	199	201	222	
Property Crimes	3362	3780	4534	3988	4294	4539	4696	4495	5346	5056	5126	
Burglary	728	738	913	842	826	866	992	971	1221	1328	1216	
Larceny	2235	2592	3079	2748	2971	3193	3213	3099	3477	3251	3384	
Auto Theft	399	450	542	398	497	480	491	425	648	477	526	
UCR Totals	3501	3929	4683	4122	4436	4763	4940	4688	5730	5428	5520	
	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	
	-6%	-5%	1%	-5%	2%	-7%	-3%	3%	2%	2%	11%	
Person Crimes	1019	968	928	979	916	954	969	1119	1063	1282	1314	
Homicide	6	7	10	9	8	8	7	9	6	6	13	
Rape	88	79	71	84	56	62	62	67	61	66	67	
Robbery	621	602	553	549	477	456	460	552	487	616	652	
Aggravated Assault	304	280	294	337	375	428	440	491	509	594	582	
Property Crimes	9413	8987	9163	8565	8851	8156	7842	7956	8153	8101	9082	
Burglary	2718	2242	2357	1868	1707	1700	1478	1459	1311	1482	1614	
Larceny	5546	5746	5715	5470	5775	5239	5095	5099	5307	5078	5574	
Auto Theft	1149	999	1091	1227	1369	1217	1269	1398	1535	1541	1894	
Arson	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
UCR Totals	10432	9955	10091	9544	9767	9110	8811	9075	9216	9383	10396	

Arson offenses are not included in the Total Part I Crimes as they are reported separately to the State of California Department of Justice. Prior to 1997, arson investigations were handled by the Santa Monica Fire Department.

	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
	15%	11%	-4%	14%	0%	-6%	-9%	12%	13%	-1%	6%	-2%	1%	22%
	512	603	597	660	623	679	632	666	593	650	774	801	849	1034
	6	13	7	7	6	9	7	14	10	9	10	14	12	17
	31	52	66	73	69	49	35	51	48	30	77	47	57	67
	169	254	229	299	281	305	335	331	330	430	445	485	520	660
	306	284	295	281	267	316	255	270	205	181	242	255	260	290
	5855	6436	6179	7039	7112	6619	5999	6733	7751	7601	7956	7785	7844	9601
	1572	1698	1736	1758	1868	1919	1571	1656	2092	2065	2340	2459	2628	2911
	3646	4090	3788	4490	4426	3955	3748	4255	4826	4749	4518	4209	4060	5403
	637	648	655	791	818	745	680	822	833	787	1098	1117	1156	1287
	6367	7039	6776	7699	7735	7298	6631	7399	8344	8251	8730	8586	8693	10635
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	02-'03	93-'03
	1%	3%	-18%	-9%	-9%	-13%	-16%	-9%	-4%	5%	-4%	-4%		
	1414	1445	1050	1083	929	835	651	628	645	654	647	555	-14%	-62%
	7	9	8	8	4	1	12	1	2	2	8	2	-75%	-78%
	50	49	46	48	45	39	22	29	31	24	33	21	-36%	-57%
	704	716	507	522	438	393	268	279	268	312	299	242	-19%	-66%
	653	671	489	505	442	402	349	319	344	316	307	290	-6%	-57%
	9109	9446	7837	6986	6447	5571	4733	4256	4049	4255	4042	3946	-2%	-58%
	1604	1511	1580	1112	1038	767	703	560	603	720	737	769	4%	-49%
	5827	6181	5091	4795	4469	4005	3300	3120	2962	3020	2811	2715	-3%	-56%
	1678	1754	1166	1079	940	799	730	576	484	515	494	462	-6%	-74%
	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	26	29	37	38	42	49	50	2%	
	10523	10891	8887	8069	7376	6406	5384	4884	4694	4909	4689	4501	-4%	-59%

Public Inquiry Phones

POLICE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC INQUIRY PHONE NUMBERS		
Emergency	9-1-1	ONLY to report a bona fide police, fire or paramedic emergency
Non-emergency incident	458-8491	Request a non-emergency call for service, or have your call directed for information about a police service not listed here
Alarm Billing	458-8481	Inquire about fees charged for a police response to a false burglar alarm
Animal Control	458-8594	Report animal control violations, dog bites, animal welfare; Inquire about pet relinquishment and adoption, spay neutering, wild animal problems
Community Relations	458-8474	Enroll in a Citizen Academy; Inquire about police-community events
Crime Prevention	458-8473	Schedule training on crime avoidance and deterrence for community groups, businesses and households
Desk Officer	458-8495	General inquiry about enforcement of state law and municipal code violations
Employment	458-8413	Recorded information about becoming a Santa Monica Police Officer
Graffiti Hotline	458-2231	Link to Public Facilities Maintenance to request removal of graffiti from public property (private property if authorized by owner)
Jail	458-8482	Reach a person held in custody
Operations Office	458-8461	Hire a police officer for a film shoot or event security
Press Information Line	434-2650	Recorded press information
Property Room	458-8440	Inquire about lost or found items; Release of items held in evidence
Records	458-8431	Purchase copies of unrestricted crime and traffic accident reports, photos; Schedule fingerprinting services; Inquire about subpoena duces tecum
Traffic Services	458-2226	Inquire about parking enforcement, preferential parking, post-tow hearings
Or visit us at http://santamonicapd.org/		

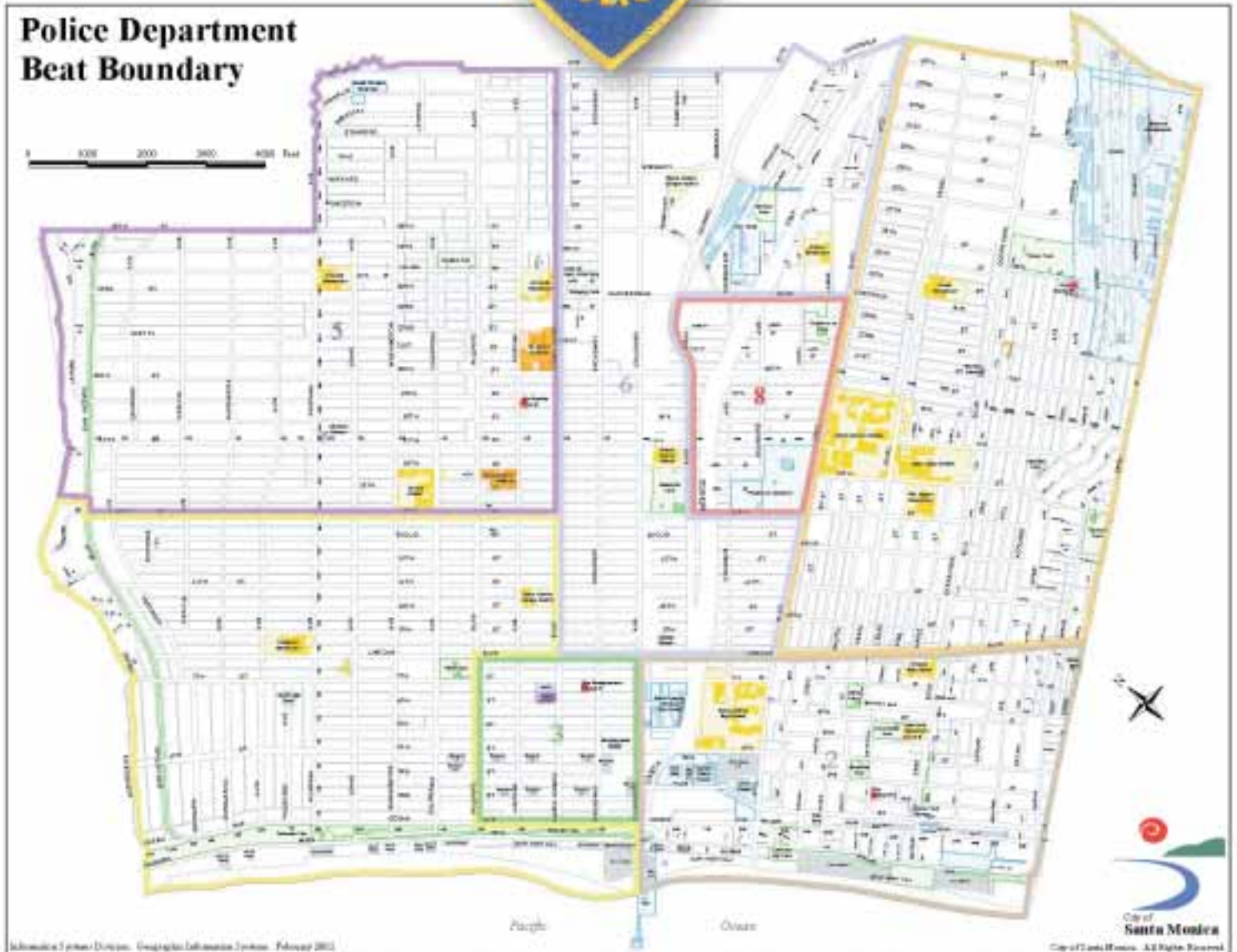
Traffic Accidents

SANTA MONICA TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, 1993-2002						
	Total Collisions	Injury Collisions	Pedestrians Involved	Fatalities	Hit & Run	Drunk Driving Arrests
1994	1,972	583	153	11	562	503
1995	2,040	528	109	11	566	586
1996	2,073	490	118	5	598	541
1997	2,035	570	142	2	564	501
1998	1,970	415	123	6	534	485
1999	2,023	467	106	3	589	417
2000	1,960	553	120	8	596	320
2001	1,966	594	130	8	585	245
2002	1,937	542	130	2	583	311
2003	1,842	426	97	10*	535	367
Change 2002 to 2003	-5%	-21%	-25%	400*%	-8%	18%

*All 2003 fatalities resulted from the Farmers' Market Incident on July 16, 2003.

Authorized Personnel Strength

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL STRENGTH (Full Time Equivalents)							
	Office of Administrative Services	Office of Operations	Office of Special Enforcement	Office of Criminal Investigations	Animal Regulation	Harbor Unit	Total by Rank
Police Chief	1.0						1.0
Deputy Chief	1.0						1.0
Police Captain		1.0	1.0	1.0			3.0
Police Lieutenant	4.0	5.0	3.0	1.0			13.0
Police Sergeant	7.0	16.0	5.0	3.0			31.0
Police Officer	14.0	92.0	38.0	21.0			165.0
Total Sworn	27.0	114.0	47.0	26.0			214.0
Civilian Support Staff	33.0	60.0	41.6	35.0	11.5	7.0	188.1
Overtime	3.5	19.7	1.9	2.7	0.2	0.2	28.2
Temporary	4.6	4.5	19.0	2.5	0.0	3.5	34.1
Totals by Division	68.1	198.2	109.5	66.2	11.7	10.7	464.4



<http://santamonicapd.org>

On the front cover: "24/7." The lights of the Public Safety Facility are a new beacon of safety that illuminate the Santa Monica Civic Center throughout the night.